(b) Grants released under the "Scheme for Strengthening of Boarding and Hostel facilities for Girl Students of Secondary and Higher Secondary Schools" during the last three years are as under:—

2003-04	—	Rs. 5,91,89,000/-
2004-05	—	Rs. 3,72,36,000/-
2005-06	—	Rs. 3,89,90,000/-

Grants under this scheme are released directly to the voluntary organizations and no State-wise allocation is made.

(c) to (e) Because of some problems encountered in its effective implementation, it has been decided not to release any grant pertaining to the years 2005-06 and 2006-07, pending evaluation of the scheme. At present, no new applications pertaining to the years 2005-06 and 2006-07 are being considered under the scheme.

DPEP to curtail drop-outs

33. SHRI B.K. HARIPRASAD: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether under the District Primary Education Programme (DPEP), it was estimated to curtail the drop-out rates to below eight per cent by 2004-05;

(b) to what extent the Mid-day Meal Programme has helped achieve the drop-out reduction targets; and

(c) whether apart from budgetary support and inflows from Education Cess, funds for DPEP including Mid-day Meal Scheme are being secured from overseas donors as grants and credits and if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRI MD. ALI ASHRAF FATMI): (a) to (c) The District Primary Education Programme (DPEP) is currently operational in 8 districts of Orissa and 9 districts of Rajasthan. The Department for International Development of the United Kingdom has provided a grant of approximately Rs. 300 crore from 2001 to 2008 for the DPEP programme

in Orissa and the World Bank has provided a soft loan of approximately Rs. 370 crore for DPEP in Rajasthan from July, 2001 to March, 2007.

One of the objectives of the DPEP programme is to reduce the drop-out rate at primary level to less than 10%.

The Mid-day Meal programme contributes *inter-alia*, to retention of children in Government primary schools. There is no external funding for the Mid-day Meal programme.

Consensus on Right to Education Bill

34. SHRI B.K. HARIPRASAD: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have secured a consensus of all the States towards enacting the Right to Education Bill, 2005 on the lines of the draft legislation circulated by the Centre to all States;

(b) if so, how soon Government expect completion of the process of enactment of the Bill by States; and

(c) whether a funding pattern has been evolved between the Centre and the States to implement the scheme when enacted?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRI MD. ALI ASHRAF FATMI): (a) and (b) on the basis of the report of a committee set up by the reconstituted Central Advisory Board of Education (CABE) to suggest a draft of the legislation envisaged under Article 21A of the Constitution, a draft Right to Education Bill, 2005 was prepared and sent to all State Governments/UTs and Central Ministries for their views. In the meanwhile, the Prime Minister also constituted a small group comprising Minister of Human Resource Development, Finance Minister, Deputy Chairman, Planning Commission and Chairman of the PM's Economic Advisory Council to examine, *inter-alia*, the legal, constitutional and financial implications of the Bill. Following the recommendations of the small group and based on further consultations, a draft Model Bill on Right to Education, to be adopted by the States along with the proposals to incentivise the States to adopt the Model Bill was circulated to the State Governments for their comments. The process of consultation with the States has not yet been completed.